

EDITED BY
WM. M. OVERTON, CH. MAURICE SMITH,
AND BEVERLY TUCKER.

SATURDAY MORNING, NOV. 17, 1855.

O. H. P. STEWART, is our authorized agent for collecting accounts due this office, and for obtaining new subscribers in Virginia.

All letters on business should be addressed to "The Sentinel Office," Washington.

We have sent bills to such of our subscribers as are indebted to the Sentinel newspaper, rendering their accounts to the 24th September, at which time the second volume of the Tri-weekly edition will close.

While returning our thanks to those who have, from the beginning, sustained our enterprise, we desire to say that all who wish to continue their subscriptions will be required to remit PAYMENT IN ADVANCE for the next volume, commencing on the 25th instant, as, otherwise, no paper will be sent from this office. The terms, it is known, are FIVE DOLLARS A YEAR.

We are compelled to this course owing to the difficulty of collecting our subscriptions, scattered as they are over a wide surface of country. Our friends will, therefore, see the necessity of complying with our terms. No offence is intended to any, since friends and strangers are embraced in the same category.

Subscribers not renewing by the first of October, their names will be stricken from the list.

A FAIR WHICH IS NOT VANITY FAIR.

We recently attended the annual agricultural fair of the State of Virginia, and as true servants of the public we felt it our duty to see for others as well as ourselves. The editorial corps are at last but the spectacles through which the public are often made to look at the external world. Some cynics, ill-natured creatures that they are, may contend that these same editorial lenses present a magnified and distorted view to the eye, that most of them are at best but green goggles imparting to every object their own peculiar hue; that they are telescopes deceiving the vision by bringing distant events and objects immediately before the eye, when in reality they are out of sight; that they resemble those solar microscopes, whose property it is to people with a myriad of monsters those beauties of nature most pleasing to the human vision; and that they, too, often illustrate the truth of the old couplet, that

"Optics keep where I was seen
To see what is not to be seen."

Now, for our own part we care not a farthing for the opinions of such ill-natured sneerers. Our design is merely to call the friendly part of those double-barrelled loggnettes at the opera, and kindly to enlarge and bring within the scope of the public eye the various scenes which are enacted

"On this wide and universal theatre
Wherein we play."

To say that we were simply pleased with the exhibition which we witnessed, would not convey an accurate idea of our real feelings. When amid the busy, noisy crowd, we looked upon the fine display of genius and art—when we heard the voices of the cattle from a thousand hills that lowed, and neighed, and bleated, and grunted in praise of the wealth of Virginia—when we saw the wonderful array of agricultural and mechanical skill which was still further developing her rich resources—when we marked the zeal and triumph written on the brows of her sturdy sons, and admired the dimpled smile and laughing eyes which testified to the joy of her bonnie-lasses, we felt our old pride of State, which we have never forgotten and can never forget, rushing freshly again into our hearts; we felt that the proud Old Dominion, which had slept so long in the lap of indolence, had awakened in her strength, and like the strong man of Israel, hearing the cry—"The Philistines be upon thee," she had broken the withs of inertia, and braced herself for the contest.

The spirit of enterprise and energy is abroad in Virginia. Agriculture, the profession which God selected for his eldest son, (and bless us what a farm old Adam had!) and which has been too long despoiled by the vain and corrupt aspirants for power, again commands and receives the attention of the intelligent and well-informed people of our native State. Fair science has become her handmaiden in her advancing progress. Agricultural chemistry takes its rank among the sister sciences, as worthy of investigation and development, as the science of medicine or the science of mechanics. The deluge which once destroyed the world, in retiring from its face, left its rich deposits of shells to renew the worn out soil in all its pristine fertility and beauty. The inexhaustible beds of marl, which have lain for four millenniums disregarded except by the curious geological antiquary or the zealous theologian who would read in their records the key to revelation, have at length been released from their long imprisonment to contribute to the wealth and happiness of man. This wonderful improvement in agriculture is due, to a great extent, to the genius and efforts of one man, whom every farmer in Virginia should delight to honor. If he be the true benefactor of his race, who "makes two blades of grass to grow where one grew before," then will the future farmers of Virginia be wanting in gratitude and justice, if they fail to recognize the merits and appreciate the services of Edmund Ruffin.

Auxiliary to this impulse given to the science of agriculture in Virginia, is the awakened sense of the people to internal improvement. The approaching session of the Legislature is looked forward to with intense interest as furnishing the means for pushing on vigorously the main lines of improvement. How far the deplorable value of State bonds may tend to delay this very desirable object, it is impossible to say. We know, that the effect can only be temporary. The unbroken faith of Virginia will be redeemed; and the temporary embarrassment under which she labors can only delay (it cannot entirely defeat) her darling object of developing the resources of the State by a judicious system of improvement. It is difficult, nay impossible, to estimate the full effect of such a system upon her resources. Should it never yield directly a cent of income to the State, it will fully repay the cost of its adoption, by the enhanced value of her property and the development of her trade. Worn out lands will be redeemed, and sterile soil will be enriched by the fertilizing effects of guano; agriculture will be quickened by the facilities to market; and the immense mineral resources which lie imbedded in her western hills will be made to contribute to her wealth and greatness.

There is enough coal west of the Blue Ridge to supply the world, and almost (to make an old proverb true) set James river on fire. We surely speak within bounds when we say, that in the single counties of Washington and Kanawha there is enough salt to furnish old Mr. Lot with as many wives as the whole Mormon tribe possess, or the most pious polygamist could desire.

We cannot too strongly commend the system of Agricultural fairs and exhibitions, as tending to keep alive this interest and to awaken a generous emulation in the hearts of the farmers of the State. St. Paul was a philosopher, as well as an apostle, when he advised the early Christians to "forbear not the assembling of themselves together." While we would not have the citizen to forget that it is by individual enterprise that individual success can alone be attained, we would not have him lost to the advantages of association. Not only does it inspire the individual with a lively interest in the prosperity of his State; not only does it contribute to the most delightful, social, and intellectual intercourse, but it teaches him, in that intercourse, the value of the suggestions of others; it informs him of principles which the wisdom of others had adopted; and it affords him that "first round in ambition's ladder," a becoming humility and sense of dependence on others. We cannot better illustrate our meaning than by adverting to one fact which was apparent to every one present at the recent exhibition. While there was not half the number of cattle and stock exhibited as at the last annual fair, the standard of worth and quality was very much higher. It arose from the simple fact, that heretofore our stock graziers and stock fatteners were really ignorant of the true character of superior stock, and hence crowded the exhibition of previous years with specimens of very ordinary merit. But now, by comparisons afforded by this annual association, their inferior specimens remained at home, like the young men of Jericho, until they are better grown—and yielded their places to stock which reflected credit alike on their owners, their State and themselves.

But we have been tempted to extend our remarks beyond the space generally allotted to a single editorial, and have scarcely time to advert to another most interesting exhibition, which it was our good fortune to witness during our sojourn in Richmond. We refer to the Virginia Mechanics Institute, an association established a few years since, and having for its object the advancement of mechanics and the arts, as the Agricultural Society has for its object the improvement of agriculture science. In addition to the exhibition which contains many useful and beautiful specimens of art, and reflects great credit on the hands of some of the fair young daughters of Richmond, the Mechanics Institute has been recently enlivened by a series of addresses from many distinguished gentlemen in Virginia. Among these we have only been able to gather the names of Messrs. B. Johnson Barbour, Allan B. Magruder, William H. McFarland and George Wythe Munford. It was our privilege and pleasure to hear the last named of these gentlemen on Saturday night last. For more than an hour he entertained the audience assembled to hear him, with a rich treat, wherein substantial information was enlivened with bursts of the most genuine wit and humor, and adorned with passages of real eloquence and beauty.

Our visit to Virginia has made us even prouder of our native State, and thoughtful for the pleasures thus afforded, which have so sweetly relieved the weary monotony of political life. We are impressed, too, with the belief that while every nerve should be strung to preserve intact the sovereign rights of the States, under the Constitution, much may be done at home in building up and maintaining her rights there—in developing her wealth, in inspiring her children with pride as well as love for their noble old mother, in opening her trade and commerce to the world, and in establishing her dependence upon herself, and thus affording her "the glorious privilege of being independent."

When James the First of England ascended the throne of Great Britain, we are told that the crown of Scotland was locked up in an iron chest, and left for more than two centuries neglected. This has been two nearly the result of the union of the States. Two little regard has been paid to the development of State strength, and too much to the support of the federal power. It is time that the rich resources of Virginia should be unlocked, and that freed from her subservient dependence upon the North for all of her supplies, she should rest once more upon her own strength for her support, and wear once more the crown of superiority which for so long was awarded with one acclamation to the proud Old Dominion.

POWDER MANUFACTORY.—The Sacramento Union states that a powder mill has been erected about four miles east of Leslie's bridge, near Sacramento, and will be in operation within a fortnight. The place selected has an abundance of willow for conversion into charcoal. Three buildings (one of which is of brick) suited to the purposes of the manufacture have been erected, and also apparatus for the refining of saltpetre and sulphur, calcining of wood, &c. The establishment will be conducted, as it is projected, by Sacramentans, and will be capable of manufacturing about two thousand pounds of rifle powder (to which operations will be confined) weekly. It may be mentioned in this connection, that others contemplate erecting mills for the manufacture of blasting powder. Although we have no data on which to base an estimate of the quantity of powder consumed in the State, there can be no doubt that the demand is enormous, and that its successful manufacture here will stop a large drain upon our cash.

Public opinion seems to be altogether unorganized in respect to the next Presidency. Of the large number of newspapers published in the United States, comparatively few have expressed a preference. So many aspirants for that exalted position have been killed off, in preceding elections, by premature nominations, among aspirants of all parties, and their friends to exercise patience and avoid agitation.

But while the press is silent and reserved, individuals are engaged in interchanging opinions. "Who is to be our next President?" is the salutation when politicians meet, when private gentlemen meet, when the plain men of the country meet.

What other parties shall think fit to do, is no concern of ours. But the action of the Democratic party possesses an interest for us that words cannot express. That the Democracy can elect their Presidential candidate is generally conceded even by their opponents, but a safe, judicious, well chosen ticket for the two highest functions of our Government—President and Vice President—ought to be made. With an ill-chosen ticket, defeat would be certain; nor indeed do we think, that success would be desirable. Incompetent Presidents will inevitably break down the party that elects them.

GENERAL WALKER—ENGLAND—THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

The successes of General Walker in Nicaragua have attracted to him a large share of attention. Commencing his career as a filibustering captain in Sonora, he became Colonel and President in a few weeks. But, taken by the officers of the United States, he was brought to the State of California and tried. After a year of inaction, or rather of quiet editing, (he exchanged the sword for the pen,) we next heard of him as a defeated filibustering colonel in Nicaragua. But a few weeks rolled by before he again appeared upon the stage of action as a general—having acquired the command of a considerable number of native troops in connection with such as remained of his own countrymen. He fought battles and gained victories, and made treaties. Establishing his party in power and crushing the opposing party, gratitude prompted the offer to him of the Presidency. He declined the proffered honor, contenting himself with the office of "General and Commander-in-chief of the Nicaraguan army." His victories were heard of in California, and hundreds of the adventurous spirits that dwell in that new State, became fired with admiration, and began to make arrangements to join him. Just at this juncture came the news that the English Government was sending a strong naval force to arrest and punish American filibusters. Diplomats and ministers scarcely ever give the true reason for what they do, and few, if any, of our people were silly enough to credit the nonsensical tale about an invasion of Ireland. We believe that our people have settled down on the opinion that the English government, contemplating a termination of our treaty in regard to Central America, and determined to maintain her protectorate over Mosquito, as well as to prevent American settlement, has destined this naval force for Central America. This belief, on the part of our citizens, has excited their indignation, and it would take but little to wake up the old-fashioned war feeling among them. There is no doctrine more firmly rooted than the Monroe policy as England disregards it, just so certainly as England disregards it, just so certainly will there be war between her and us. In the aspects of this subject, which we have thus hurriedly referred to, we must say that, whilst we oppose all filibustering enterprises, events may prove that Walker's successes will prove eminently subservient to our interests, and that Walker may become greatly useful in upholding the settled policy of our country in regard to foreign colonization on this continent.

The War of 1812—National Convention.

The Hon. J. B. Sutherland, President of the Convention of the Defenders of the War of 1812, held in this city last January, has issued a call for them to reassemble here on the 8th of January 1855, the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans. As many of the Delegates have gone to their last account since the adjournment, it is recommended that additional delegates be chosen. Many important propositions will be presented to the consideration of the Convention. Meetings should be held forthwith in the several States, to make the necessary arrangements. A full attendance of Delegates is very desirable. It is the intention, we believe, to keep up the annual assemblages.

Judge Douglas.

We find in the Valley Blade of the 7th, the following letter from Dr. Read, the attending physician of Judge Douglas:

THOMAS HAYES, Nov. 6, 1855.

Sir, I regret to inform you that the Hon. Stephen A. Douglas is confined to a sick bed. He has been, and yet continues greatly prostrated, not being able to sit up but a few moments in the day.

His disease is much more serious than was at first anticipated, and although there is a decided amendment of his symptoms giving assurance of a safe recovery, yet it would not be prudent, nor will he be able to leave his room for the next few days.

Knowing the anxiety felt for the Judge everywhere, I have thought proper to communicate these facts to yourself, and through you to his numerous friends throughout the country.

Very truly, your friend,

E. READ.

Treaty with Switzerland.

The Washington Union of a late date publishes a copy of the treaty, recently ratified, between the United States and the Swiss Confederation. The object of the treaty is set forth to be "a general convention of friendship, reciprocal establishments, commerce, and for the surrender of fugitive criminals." The first article embraces generally the personal rights reciprocally guaranteed by the treaty:

ARTICLE I.

The citizens of the United States of America and the citizens of Switzerland shall be admitted and treated upon a footing of reciprocal equality in the two countries, where such admission and treatment shall not conflict with the constitutional or legal provisions, as well Federal as State and cantonal, of the contracting parties. The citizens of the United States and the citizens of Switzerland, as well as the members of their families, subject to the consular and legal provisions aforesaid, and yielding obedience to the laws, regulations, and usages of the country wherein they reside, shall be at liberty to come, go, sojourn temporarily, domicile, or establish themselves permanently, the former in the cantons of the Swiss Confederation, the Swiss in the States of the American Union, to acquire, possess, and alienate therein property, (as is explained in article V.) to manage their affairs; to exercise their profession, their industry, and their commerce; to have establishments; to possess warehouses; to consign their products and their merchandise, and to sell them by wholesale or retail, either by themselves or by such brokers or other agents as they may think proper; they shall have free access to the tribunals, and shall be at liberty to prosecute and defend their rights before courts of justice in the same manner as native citizens, either by themselves or by such advocates, attorneys, or other agents as they may think proper to select. No pecuniary or other more burdensome condition shall be imposed upon their residence or establishment, or upon the enjoyment of the abovementioned rights, than shall be imposed upon citizens of the country where they reside, nor any condition whatever to which the latter shall not be subject.

The foregoing privileges, however, shall not extend to the exercise of political rights nor to a participation in the property of communities, corporations, or institutions, of which the citizens of one party, established in the other, shall not have become members or co-proprietors.

PRESIDENTIAL MOVEMENTS.

The United States of America and the Swiss Confederation, on the one hand, and the States of the American Union, on the other, have agreed to a treaty of friendship, commerce, and consular rights, which shall be ratified by the respective legislatures, and shall take effect on the 1st day of January next.

The treaty of the allied command, entered into by the Dupleix and Bug, but retired after making a reconnaissance.

It is known that the Russian army of reserve, intended for the defence of Odessa, and for reinforcement of the army in the Crimea, is stationed at Nicolaeff. A large Russian force was marched to Odessa when the allied fleets were seen sailing thitherward, and, on their withdrawal, was marched back as speedily to Nicolaeff. Although since the reduction of Kinburn and Ochakoff a land force of the Allies may advance on Nicolaeff, advice from the spot says it is questionable whether such an enterprise is thought of at this late season of the year.

ARTICLE XIII.

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ARTICLE XIV.

On the part of the United States the surrender shall be made only by the authority of the Executive thereof; and on the part of the Swiss Confederation by that of the Federal Council.

ARTICLE XVI.

The expenses of detention and delivery, effected in virtue of the preceding articles, shall be at the cost of the party making the demand.

ARTICLE XVII.

The provisions of the foregoing articles relating to the surrender of fugitive criminals, shall not apply to offences committed before the date hereof, nor to those of a political character.

From the Squatter Sovereign—Extra.

Great Excitement at Doniphan, K. T.—An Abolitionist Killed!

We learn from Mr. Newman, of Doniphan, that Samuel Collins, of that place, was killed this morning about sunrise, by Pat. Laughlin. As far as we have been able to learn, the circumstances are as follows:

Mr. Laughlin recently made an exposition of the midnight organization existing among the Abolitionists in the Territory, called the Grand Encampment and Regiments of the "Klan." Collins, who is a colored man, one of the regiments in this order, and determined to force Mr. Laughlin to a retraction, or kill him. In accordance with this determination he and some twelve brother Abolitionists proceeded, this morning, to seek out Mr. Laughlin, and demanded an unequalled retraction of his recent confession, and upon Mr. L.'s refusal to make any concession whatever, Collins immediately snapped his gun at him, (Laughlin) and then fired at him, but fortunately the weapon was turned aside by a spectator. Mr. Laughlin then drew a revolver and fired upon his opponent, killing him instantly.

News from Australia.

By way of Callao we have news from Australia dated at Melbourne on the 15th, and at Sydney on the 18th of August.

In Sydney the Legislative Council was engaged in discussing the estimates, in which the independent members—representatives of all the large constituencies—have opposed the government, but without success, owing to the large official majority placed at the disposal of government by the defective constitution of the colony.

A large meeting was held in Sydney on the 30th of July, to petition the Governor General for the release of the Rev. Dr. Lang, imprisoned for libel on Mr. Alexander Stuart.

The drainage of the city of Sydney, and other public works were progressing. The works of the Sydney and Paramatta Railroad were fast approaching completion.

The agricultural prospects of the colony were favorable; the weather generally fine, and much increased breadth of land sown with wheat.

In Melbourne a committee had been named to organize an association to agitate for the opening of the Crown lands.

The various districts are spoken of as progressing well, several new "rushes" are said to have taken place on the flats near Kangaroo Point, Frey's Creek.

A grand ball was to be given by the French colonial in aid of the wounded French veterans of the Crimea.

In Melbourne flour was \$14 per ton, with plenty in the market, and more to arrive. Business generally was dull.

THE WASHINGTON GLOBE, which is the official record of the proceedings of Congress, will be published daily during the approaching session, at the rate of \$10 per annum, the Congressional quarto edition and appendix being \$6 for the session.

Missouri U. S. Senatorship.

CHICAGO, Nov. 14.—The Legislature of Missouri refused on Monday last, to go into election for U. S. Senator, in place of Mr. Atchison. Two Democratic caucuses have been held. The prospects of an election are doubtful.

ONE WEEK LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamship Pacific arrived at New York on Thursday morning.

Extraordinary excitement has prevailed in England, amounting almost to a panic, on the subject of a war with the United States.

The London Times, in a series of malicious editorials, started the subject, which, exaggerated by the provincial press, speedily attained such dimensions, that extras were issued, announcing that the American Minister had demanded his passports. This, however, has been denied by Mr. Buchanan himself.

The intelligence from the seat of war contains little that is really news. Correspondence is to hand detailing the capture of Kinburn and the forced destruction of the fort of Ochakoff. Some allied ships were attempted to enter both the Dupleix and Bug, but retired after making a reconnaissance.

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The tactics of the allied command, entered into by the Dupleix and Bug, but retired after making a reconnaissance.

There is a general opinion that the fleets have entered the Gulf of Percep.

At Sebastopol the Allies continue their repulse of the city, their preparations for the bombardment of the Fort Constantine, and the line of works which the Russians hold are strengthening on the north side. A desultory cannonade is kept up on both sides without much effect. Large detachments were said to have been seen withdrawing from the north side towards Simferopol, but these evidences of preparations to evacuate are said to have been false.

Gen. Gortschakoff lately expressed his determination to defend the Crimea at all hazards. Now, however, the Emperor has left him to his own discretion. The allied army is at present of considerable strength in cavalry, and, as Marshal Pelissier in his despatch of the 29th ult. speaks of the "march of the 29th ult. against the Crimea," as "inaugurating a new series of operations," we may expect to see more made of that arm.

Previous accounts have informed us of the advance of the Allies from Eupatoria and other points until almost in face of the enemy.

Gen. Gortschakoff now announces to his government that in consequence of demonstrations made on their flank, the Allies have returned to their former positions. Some other successes, but of trifling import, have been gained by the fleets.

In the Crimea, a belief prevailed that the Russians would attack the Allied positions; consequently the advance of the troops was countermanded, and the British have returned to Eupatoria, the French to Baidar, and the Turks and Sardinians to the Tchernaya.

The Allies are repairing and arming Sebastopol, and they keep up a desultory fire against the north side.

The London Times, apparently speaking from authority, says:

"We believe there can be no doubt that the operations for the expulsion of the Russians from the Crimea are abandoned for the present season. The main body of both armies will go into winter quarters. Five months of inactivity are thus before the armies of the East."

Trouble is anticipated with Austria. Berlin letters of the 31st of October state that the Austrian occupation of the principalities is becoming a troublesome question. The Emperor of the French is understood to have expressed a decided intimation on the subject to Baron Protes-Osten on his recent visit to Paris. The Porte is said to have positively refused any communication with Count Paar, the Austrian special envoy, on the plea that her hands are tied with the Western Powers. Meanwhile the report is that the Austrian force in the Principalities is to be augmented by 25,000 men.

THE BIBLE AND THE DISCOVERIES OF SCIENCE.

The following eloquent passages are from Lieutenant Maury's late work on the "Physical Geography of the Sea."

"As our knowledge of nature and her laws has increased, so has our understanding of many passages of the Bible been improved. The Bible called the earth 'the round world'; yet for ages it was the most damnable heresy for Christian men to say the world is round; and, finally, sailors circumnavigated the globe, and proved the Bible to be right, and saved Christian men of science from the stake."

"Canst thou tell the secret influence of the Pleiades? Astronomers of the present day, if they have not answered the question, have thrown so much light upon it as to show that, if ever it be answered by man, he must consult the science of astronomy. It has recently all but proved that the earth and sun, with their planets, are all in motion around some point of centre of attraction inconceivably remote, and that that point is in the direction of the star Aleyon, one of the Pleiades! Who but the Astronomer, then, could tell their sweet influence?"

[Staunton (Va.) Vindicator.]

Singular Accident.

A very singular accident occurred, last yesterday afternoon, in Goldmark's percussion cap factory, located in Sixty-ninth-street, between Ninth and Tenth avenues. William Feish, Lewis Robb, and others, all Germans, employed in the establishment, sought to amuse themselves by shooting at a target placed at the extreme end of the factory. One of the balls passed through the building, and lodging in a barrel of powder, caused an instantaneous and terrific explosion, blowing the factory, a wooden building, one and a half stories high, 20 feet by 30 in length, and the contents, almost to atoms. One of the workmen, whose name was not ascertained, was seriously injured. Several old buildings in the immediate vicinity were much shattered. So violent was the explosion, windows and glass doors were broken. The total damage is estimated at about \$1,000. That the accident did not result more seriously is a great wonder.—N. Y. Times.

Loss of Life and Property on Steamers.

We some days since gave a brief paragraph embracing the aggregate losses from steamboat disasters within the last year, from the reports of the Supervising Inspectors of Steamboats lately in session at St. Louis, and now present a somewhat fuller statement. Their report embraces the loss of life and property on all the inspected steamers under the last since it first went into operation, which will shortly be published. There has been an immense loss of property, principally by the sinking and burning of steamboats, but there has been but little loss of life by explosions and collisions, on our interior waters. The loss of life during the year ending September 30, 1855, was as follows:

On the waters of the Atlantic..... 185

On the waters of the Mississippi..... 95

On the waters of the Northern Lakes..... 73

On the waters of the Pacific..... 307

On the waters of the Ocean (steamer Arcton)..... 588

Total..... 1,377

The causes of this loss of life were—steamer, 137; fire, 69; collisions, 334; wreck, 21; foundered, 27. Of 1,062 steamers inspected the past year, including those of California, there have been accidents involving the loss of life on only twenty-seven boats. On the Mississippi and its tributaries there have been but thirty-three passengers who have lost their lives. In the fifth supervising district, which includes the Arkansas and all other waters of the Mississippi (except the Ohio) up to the Lower Rapids, there has been a loss of forty-two inspected steamers, principally being snagged or run by rocks, involving a loss of more than \$950,000 worth of property.

[Cleveland Plaindealer.

Sept 19.

ONE WEEK LATER FROM EUROPE.

From the New York Herald.

Our Washington Territory Correspondence.

Vancouver, B. C., Oct. 9, 1855.

Mr. Samuel D. Smith of this place has just arrived, as special express, from the Dalles, which place he left last evening, at 9 o'clock with despatches for Major Rains, and the Governors of Oregon and Washington Territories.

All the Yacama, Indians are in the field and the war has fairly begun. The death of Mr. Bolton, sub-Indian Agent, is confirmed. Major Haller in command of one hundred of the 4th Infantry, (nearly all recruits), who marched a few days ago to capture the murderers of Mr. Bolton, met the Indians in force about fifty miles from the Dalles, on Saturday, at 3 o'clock p. m., when the fighting commenced and continued until dark, when the Indians retired. Major Haller then shifted his position to a rising ground, and at daylight next morning found himself and command cut off from wood and water, and an overwhelming number of Indians on every side. He, however, managed to get in an express to the Dalles, by a friendly Indian, who rode the Major's horse. He asks for immediate reinforcements, and reports that the men are very much fatigued and the horses in want of food, in consequence of the Indians being so near. Lieut. Slauter, who marched from Steilacoom, Puget Sound, with forty men of the 4th Infantry, to meet Haller, is reported by Indians to have been cut off while crossing a stream—they had to cross the worst route over the Cascade Range—the exact number reported killed by the Indians partly confirmed the report. Lieut. Day, in command of company L, 3d Artillery, left the Dalles this morning to join Haller, and Major Rains, with all the disposable troops at this post, is to proceed immediately to his assistance, with two mountain howitzers.

A Catholic priest residing at the Dalles, fearing that the men are very much fatigued and the horses in want of food, in consequence of the Indians being so near. Lieut. Slauter, who marched from Steilacoom, Puget Sound, with forty men of the 4th Infantry, to meet Haller, is reported by Indians to have been cut off while crossing a stream—they had to cross the worst route over the Cascade Range—the exact number reported killed by the Indians partly confirmed the report.

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The London Times, apparently speaking from authority, says:

"We believe there can be no doubt that the operations for the expulsion of the Russians from the Crimea are abandoned for the present season. The main body of both armies will go into winter quarters. Five months of inactivity are thus before the armies of the East."

Trouble is anticipated with Austria. Berlin letters of the 31st of October state that the Austrian occupation of the principalities is becoming a troublesome question. The Emperor of the French is understood to have expressed a decided intimation on the subject to Baron Protes-Osten on his recent visit to Paris. The Porte is said to have positively refused any communication with Count Paar, the Austrian special envoy, on the plea that her hands are tied with the Western Powers. Meanwhile the report is that the Austrian force in the Principalities is to be augmented by 25,000 men.

THE BIBLE AND THE DISCOVERIES OF SCIENCE.

The following eloquent passages are from Lieutenant Maury's late work on the "Physical Geography of the Sea."

"As our knowledge of nature and her laws has increased, so has our understanding of many passages of the Bible been improved. The Bible called the earth 'the round world'; yet for ages it was the most damnable heresy for Christian men to say the world is round; and, finally, sailors circumnavigated the globe, and proved the Bible to be right, and saved Christian men of science from the stake."

"Canst thou tell the secret influence of the Pleiades? Astronomers of the present day, if they have not answered the question, have thrown so much light upon it as to show that, if ever it be answered by man, he must consult the science of astronomy. It has recently all but proved that the earth and sun, with their planets, are all in motion around some point of centre of attraction inconceivably remote, and that that point is in the direction of the star Aleyon, one of the Pleiades! Who but the Astronomer, then, could tell their sweet influence?"

[Staunton (Va.) Vindicator.]

Singular Accident.

A very singular accident occurred, last yesterday afternoon, in Goldmark's percussion cap factory, located in Sixty-ninth-street, between Ninth and Tenth avenues. William Feish, Lewis Robb, and others, all Germans, employed in the establishment, sought to amuse themselves by shooting at a target placed at the extreme end of the factory. One of the balls passed through the building, and lodging in a barrel of powder, caused an instantaneous and terrific explosion, blowing the factory, a wooden building, one and a half stories high, 20 feet by 30 in length, and the contents, almost to atoms. One of the workmen, whose name was not ascertained, was seriously injured. Several old buildings in the immediate vicinity were much shattered. So violent was the explosion, windows and glass doors were broken. The total damage is estimated at about \$1,000. That the accident did not result more seriously is a great wonder.—N. Y. Times.